

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

February, 2002

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Seventh Worcester Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2001.

Residents of Seventh Worcester Representative District

Treatment Admissions:

In FY 2001, there were 120,687 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts. Of these, 0.6% (689) reside in the Seventh Worcester Representative District. Due to budget cuts in FY 2002, BSAS estimates that 19% (131) of Seventh Worcester Representative District residents will not be able to access treatment services. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.**

- In FY 2001, 79.4% of admissions from the Seventh Worcester Representative District were male and 20.6% were female.
- Over 56.6% of admissions were between the ages of 21-39.
- 93.6% of admissions were white non-Latino, 0.4% were black non-Latino, 3.8% were Latino, and 2.2% were other racial categories.
- 60.8% of those admitted to treatment were never married, 14.5% were married, and 17.3% reported not to be married now.
- 28.6% of admissions had less than high school education, 52.8% completed high school, and 18.6% had more than high school education.
- 43.8% of those admitted to treatment were employed.
- 5.1% of those admitted were homeless.
- 9.0% of admissions had prior mental health treatment.

Substances Used in Past Year:

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as 'polydrug' or 'polysubstance' use. For example, individuals who use cocaine, crack and heroin also may report the use of either alcohol and/or marijuana.

- Table 1 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug use (IDU) in the Seventh Worcester Representative District. Injection drug users (or IDU's) are individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 1 Annual Admissions by Substance Used FY 1995 – FY 2001							
Seventh Worcester Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	451	383	105	96	64	97	65
FY '96	466	393	137	112	68	95	59
FY '97	500	426	146	122	101	114	94
FY '98	597	491	195	138	98	181	148
FY '99	672	573	205	135	99	169	130
FY '00	600	499	171	138	95	213	175
FY '01	689	516	204	129	67	209	169

- Since FY 1995, residents of Seventh Worcester Representative District reported an increase in alcohol and heroin use. Alcohol use increased by 34% and heroin use by 115%.
- Between FY 1995 and FY 2001, admissions reporting marijuana use increased by 95%, and cocaine use by 34%, while crack use remained steady.

Primary Substance of Use:

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems.

- Table 2 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Seventh Worcester Representative District.

Table 2 Primary Drug by District and State FY 2001					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	55.2%	28.6%	9.6%	2.3%	1.0%
State	46.5%	35.9%	6.5%	3.9%	3.4%

- While heroin, cocaine and crack as a primary drug of use in your Representative District was lower than the State average, alcohol and marijuana was higher within your District.